

HF Happenings 786



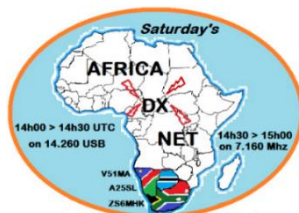
Volume 15, Issue 49, the week of 12 March 2018



African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Senegal, 6W. YL Elvira, IV3FSG, is now active as 6W/IV3FSG from Thies, near Dakar. The length of her stay is unknown. She works for the Informatiçi Senza Frontiere organization. Activity will be limited to her spare time on 80 to 10 meters. Look for Elvira to operate SSB and possibly the Digital modes. QSL all SSB and Digital mode QSOs via IK3GES. Logs will be uploaded to both LoTW and ClubLog after the operation.



Benin, TY. Members of the F6KOP team, the Provins ARC, are now active as TY7C from Ouidah until 17 March. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via F5GSJ direct, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS. For more details, see <https://ty2018dx.wordpress.com>

Republic of Congo, TN. Operators from the Tifarit Gang and DXFriends www.dxfriends.com are now active as TN5R from Brazzaville until 19 March. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via EA5RM or OQRS. For more details and updates, see www.dxfriends.com/tn5r. The TN5R team dedicates this expedition in memory of David Collingham, K3LP/SK.

Cameroon, TJ. The Italian DXpedition Team will be active as TJ3TT from 15 to 29 March. They will be active on HF using CW, SSB and RTTY (only on 20 m). The operators are Mac, JA3USA, Silvano, I2YSB, Vinicio,

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

March

- 5 - Closing date for Digital contest logs
- 8 - International Women's Day
- 10 and 11 - SARL VHF/UHF Analogue contest; 82nd RSGB Commonwealth contest
- 12 - Closing date for Hamnet logs
- 19 - Closing date VHF/UHF Analogue logs
- 20 - Autumn Equinox; International Day of Happiness
- 21 - SA Human Right's Day; World Down Syndrome Day; International Day of Forests
- 22 - World Water Day
- 23 - World Meteorological Day
- 24 - Cape Town ARC meeting
- 24 and 25 - CQ WPX SSB Contest
- 26 - Closing date for April Radio ZS
- 28 - Provincial schools close
- 30 - Good Friday/Pesach
- 31 - Pesach

April

- 1 to 7 - Pesach
- 2 - Family Day; World Autism Awareness Day
- 5 - SARL 80 m QSO Party
- 7 - RaDAR Challenge; United Nations World Health Day
- 7 and 8 - SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest
- 10 - Provincial Schools open
- 12 - International Day for Human Space Flight; closing date for 80 m QSO logs
- 13 - Friggatriskaidekaphobia
- 13 to 15 - SARL National Convention, Pretoria
- 14 - closing date for RaDAR logs
- 16 - closing date for VHF/UHF digital logs
- 18 - World Amateur Radio Day
- 21 - Autumn QRP contest
- 22 - ZS4 Sprint; May RAE registration closes; Earth Day
- 24 - closing date for May Radio ZS
- 27 - Freedom Day
- 28 - Cape Town ARC meeting; closing date for QRP logs
- 30 - closing date for ZS4 logs

IK2CIO, Angelo, IK2CKR, Marcello, IK2DIA, and Stefano, IK2HKT. QSL via I2YSB (direct) or OQRS www.i2ysb.com/idx/

Burkina Faso, XT. Harald, DF2WO will be back on the air as XT2AW between 19 March and 10 April. Max, DK1MAX plans to visit him from 23 March until 2 April. He will be active as XT2MAX on HF and 6 m on CW and FT8. QSL for XT2AW via M00XO; XT2MAX via DK1MAX (direct), LoTW, eQSL, ClubLog.

Ceuta and Melilla, ED9. Members of the Amateur Radio Union of Ceuta will be active as ED9E during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest on 24 and 25 March as a Multi-Op entry. QSL via EA9ACD direct only.



Senegal, 6W. Franz, DC4CQ, informs OPDX that he has a temporary license, 6W/DC4CQ, from Senegal for the period of 15 to 28 April. Activity will be on 40 to 15 meters using a FT 857D with 100 watts into antennas - FD4 (40), 20, 17 m a triple leg for 15, 17 and 20 m and a probable homebrew Magnetic-Loop 15 to 20 m. He states that he "will work SSB, and if the conditions are bad he will be on the Digital modes FT8 (JT65, PSK31)." Franz, states, "I'm a gynaecologist, obstetrician and an engineer. I will work together with my wife (general medicine) at the Hospital - St Jean de Dieu in Thiès, Senegal. My job will be in education of prenatal ultra- sound and introduction of a new surgery system. Therefore, I have a lot to do and I will only operate in the evening." QSL via his home callsign.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Annobon Island, 3C0W. Yuris, YL2GM, Kaspars, YL1ZF (ex-YL3AIW) and Girts, YL2KL were expected to leave Bioko Island on Tuesday last week for Annobon Island, but that did not happen. They had to wait for the next flight on Saturday 10 March. The team is now active as 3C0W as of 10 March and they will return to Bioko Island (AF-010), Equatorial Guinea, on 24 March. Activity again will be between 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via YL2GN direct or ClubLog's OQRS (direct or Bureau). See their Web page for more details. Look for the logs to be uploaded to LoTW six months after their operations. For more details and updates, watch their Web page at www.lral.lv/3c0w_3c3w/index.html. SATURDAY UPDATE: Mobile Internet fails to work. Thus, 3C0W log uploads are unlikely until the DXpedition is over.

Madeira Island, CT3. Helmut, DF7ZS will be back on Madeira Island (IOTA AF-014) from 20 to 27 March. He will be active as CT9/DF7ZS and as CQ3W in the WPX contest. QSL for CT9/DF7ZS via home call – direct or via the bureau, CQ3W via ClubLog OQRS, LoTW.



Mauritius, 3B8. Mart, DL6UAA, is once again active as 3B8MM on Mauritius Island (AF-049) between 27 March and 11 April. Activity has been on 40 to 6 meters including 30, 17 and 12 m using mainly CW with some Digital. QSL via DL6UAA, direct or by the Bureau. Visit his Web page at www.dl6uua.com

St Brandon Island DXpedition News, 3B7A. The 3B7A DXpedition is expected to be active between 5 and 17 April. Activity, with 5 stations, will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are as follows:

CW – 1 826.5, 3 523, 7 023, 10 115, 14 023, 18 079, 21 023, 24 894 and 28 023 kHz

SSB – 3 790, 7 082, 14 185, 18 130, 21 285, 24 955 and 28 485 kHz

RTTY – 10 142, 14 080, 18 099, 21 080, 24 912 and 28 080 kHz

QSL via F5CWU (direct or by the Bureau), ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. For more information, see www.saintbrandondx.com. Support them from their Web site www.saintbrandondx.com/how-to-help-us. Follow them on Facebook www.facebook.com/SaintBrandonDX and Twitter <https://twitter.com/SaintBrandonDX>.

Software Upgrades

Today's Amateur gear containing microprocessors usually has provisions for upgrading the software via a computer link or memory card. DX Engineering has published a blog article on Firmware Upgrades including the steps to take to make sure updates are trouble free <https://dxengineering.wordpress.com/2018/03/01/understanding-firmware-upgrades/>.



N1MM Logger+

If you are using N1MM Logger+ in one of the upcoming RTTY Contests, make sure you're using version 1.0.7099 or later http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-list_file_gallery.php?galleryId=15. An issue was fixed recently that may affect serial number incrementing.

Nordics on the Air

Nordics on the Air (NOTA) is the first regional spinoff from the Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) program www.ham-yota.com/nordics-on-the-air-first-subregional-yota-camp. Organized by the Swedish Amateur Radio Association SSA, this year's event took place from 1 to 4 March and consisted of social, educational, and competitive events focused on Amateur Radio.

Gridmapper

From Gary, ZL2IRB: "This is cool, especially for those of us participating in the ARRL International Grid Chase: Gridmapper, a Google Earth mapper, courtesy of Johan, WG7J, that slurps up an ADIF log file and spits out the grid squares we have worked and confirmed <http://wg7j.reinalda.net/gridmapper/gridmapper.php>. It is easy enough to just use but if the options puzzle you, click the question-mark-diamond at the top of the web page."

Azimuthal Map

Azimuthal Map is a great new way to view Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) data on various maps and graphs, thanks to HA8TKS and CT1BOH. Go to the Azimuthal Map website http://dxcluster.ha8tk.com/azi%20muthal_map/, then check "Dxcall" and enter your own call sign to see where you are being heard displayed on a Great Circle map. Other tabs at the top provide many other useful ways to look at the live data RBN data, including a scrolling "band map".

The HF Voyager

The HF Voyager is an 'autonomous, ocean-going drone' with a remotely controlled Amateur Radio station on board www.irfarc.org/hf-voyager/. According to Rusty, W6OAT, it is possible to work the craft using FT8 on 20 meters <https://marc.info/?l=elecraft&m=152036765825717&w=2>. Depending on battery state and whether the functionality is enabled by the remote operator, the craft will respond to direct calls and upload completed QSOs to its website <http://hfvportal.irfarc.org/>.

Word to the Wise

Pallet – a pallet, as related to an RF amplifier, is module usually consisting of one or more solid state devices, input/output networks, and bias circuitry. Standardized, pre-tested modules can be easier and more cost effective for homebrew constructors than individual transistors requiring specialized printed circuit board layout, mounting, and soldering techniques.

A pallet for an HF Amplifier. This unit, from <http://rf-kit.de/> has the heat spreader and heatsink attached [Photo courtesy of rf-kit.de]



Search and Pounce to Run

On busy, crowded bands, finding a clear frequency to run may take a while. Earn some points while you're looking by searching and

pouncing until you find a good spot. Do not forget, the object is to find an empty frequency to run, so only work stations that are calling CQ. Tune past contacts in progress, and don't get involved in pile-ups.

Bow Waves

During last summer's solar eclipse, researchers at MIT's Haystack Observatory and the University of Tromsø, Norway, observed bow waves created in the ionosphere by the shadow of the eclipse www.skyandtel-escape.com/astronomy-news/solar-eclipse-made-bow-waves-earths-atmosphere/. The waves are created because the "eclipse shadow is supersonic with respect to the local sound speed in the upper atmosphere" according to Phil, W1PJE, a co-author of the study. The referenced article contains a visualization of the collected data.

Cosmic Rays

According to an article referenced on SpaceWeather.com, decreased solar activity can allow more cosmic rays to penetrate Earth's atmosphere. Those rays can be harmful to humans and negatively affect radio wave propagation by increasing ionospheric radio wave absorption. <http://spaceweather.com/archive.php?view=1&day=05&month=03&year=2018>

New polymer technology

New polymer technology is behind a recent breakthrough in capacitor energy storage and future commercially produced capacitors could rival or exceed the energy storage capacity of current Lithium batteries, according to researchers. Capacitors offer higher current capacities than batteries, but traditionally cannot store as much charge. www.elektormagazine.com/news/hypercaps-supercap-breakthrough-challenges-lithium-batteries

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 5 to 12 March 2018

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
00:00 - 02:00 UTC 12 March
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 14 March 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: <http://grpcontest.com/4sgrp>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.4sgrp.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf

CLARA Chatter Party
17:00 UTC 13 March to 17:00 UTC 14 March and
17:00 UTC 17 March to 17:00 UTC 18 March
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 m
Classes: Single Op - low or high

Max operating hours: 24
Max power: HP: >200 W; LP: 200 W
Exchange: RS(T), name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with CLARA member; 5 points per QSO with CLARA family member; 5 points per QSO with non-member YL; 1 point per QSO with OM
Multipliers: Each VE province/territory once per band per mode; Each US state (must be YL QSO) once per band per mode; Each DXCC country (must be YL QSO) once per band per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 14 April 2018
E-mail logs to: ve5aq@sasktel.net
Mail logs to: Val Lemko, VE5ACJ, 1125 Iroquois St. W., Moose Jaw, Sask. S6H 5C1, Canada
Find rules at: <http://www.clarayl.ca/index.php/awards-certificates-to-work-for/clara-chatter-party-rules>

QRP Fox Hunt
01:00 - 02:30 UTC 14 March
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 15 March 2018

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 March

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 16 March 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.per-luma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 15 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 17 March 2018

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 14 March

Geographic Focus: United Kingdom

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: United Kingdom

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 15 March 2018

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/r80_mcc.shtml

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 16 March

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 17 March 2018

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.grpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 16 March

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 18 March 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyins.html>

NCCC Sprint
 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 March
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: (see rules)
 Classes: (none)
 Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 18 March 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

BARTG HF RTTY Contest
 02:00 UTC 17 March to 02:00 UTC, Mar 19
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: Worldwide
 Mode: RTTY
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op Expert All Band; Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op All Band 6 Hours; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi
 Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours with at least 3-hour rest period; Single Op 6 Hours: 6 hours; Multi-Op: 48 hours
 Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts; QRP: 5 Watts
 Exchange: RST, serial no and 4-digit time (UTC)
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: DXCC countries once per band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once per band; Continents once regardless of band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total country/area mults x continents
 Submit logs by: 02:00 UTC 26 March 2018
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: <http://bartg.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.bartg.org.uk/>

Russian DX Contest
 12:00 UTC 17 March to 12:00 UTC 18 March
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op All Band CW - low or high; Single Op All Band SSB - low or high; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: Ru: RS(T) and 2-character oblast; non-Ru: RS(T) and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country same continent; Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with same country different continent; Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent
 Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; non-Ru Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ru station; non-Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country; non-Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; non-Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with /MM
 Multipliers: Each oblast once per band; Each country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 1 April 2018
 E-mail logs to: logs@rdxc.org
 Upload log at: <http://www.rdxc.org/asp/pages/www-log.asp>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.rdxc.org/asp/pages/rulesg.asp>

Louisiana QSO Party
 14:00 UTC 17 March to 02:00 UTC 18 March
 Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW/Digital, Phone
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
 Classes: CW/Digital - QRP, low or high; Phone - QRP, low or high; Mixed Mode - QRP, low or high; Rover - CW-digital, phone or mixed- QRP, low or high
 Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: LA: RS(T) and Parish; non-LA: RS(T) and state, province or country
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 4 points per CW/Digital QSO; LA Rovers: add 50 points to score for each parish activated; Bonus: add 100 points to score for working N5LCC at least once
 Multipliers: LA stations: Each LA parish, state, province, country once per band per mode; Non-LA stations: Each LA parish once per band per mode
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
 Submit logs by: 17 April 2018
 E-mail logs to: logs@laqp.org
 Mail logs to: LAQP, Robert Baker, 136 Northwood Drive, West Monroe, LA 71291, USA

Find rules at: http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso_rules.htm

Virginia QSO Party

14:00 UTC 17 March to 04:00 UTC 18 March and
12:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 March

Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or expedition - QRP, low or high - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Single - fixed, mobile or expedition - QRP, low or high - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Multi - fixed, mobile or expedition - QRP, low or high - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VA: Serial no and county; non-VA: Serial no and state, province or DX

Work stations: Once per band per mode

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 15 April 2018

E-mail logs to: vqp@verizon.net

Mail logs to: VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167, USA

Find rules at: http://www.gsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2018_VQP/2018_VQP_Main.html

Feld Hell Sprint

20:00 - 21:59 UTC 17 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 21 March 2018

Upload log at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhell-club/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhell-club/Home/contests/sprints/leprechaun-sprint>

UBA Spring SSB Contest

07:00 – 11:00 UTC 18 March

Geographic Focus: Belgium

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single; SWL

Max power: non-QRP: >10 watts; QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: ON: RS, serial no and UBA Section; non-

ON: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with Belgian station

Multipliers: Each UBA Section

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 1 April 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://springcontest.on4dst.be/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules/spring-contest>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3

points per QSO with member on same continent; 5

points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once;

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 March 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://grpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://grpcontest.com/pigrun/>

Bucharest Contest

18:00 – 20:59 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: Romania

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB, PSK

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op – CW, SSB, digital or mixed – QRP or low - 2-Band or Single Band; Multi-Op Low Power - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - 2-Band or Single Band; SWL

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: YO: RS(T), QSO no and Sector/County;

non-YO: RS(T), QSO no and Country Code

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with all stations, except YO stations in XA – XF; 4 points per QSO with YO stations in XA - XF
Multipliers: Each YO county; Each Bucharest sector (XA - XF); Each country code
Score Calculation: Total score = total score of each segment (total QSO points x total mults)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 30 March 2018
E-mail logs to: fenyo3jw@yahoo.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://yo3test201x.blogspot.ro/p/blog-page.html>

90th anniversary of Umberto Nobile's Polar Expedition with the airship Italia

On 23 May 1928, Nobile departed for the North Pole which he reached on the 24 May. His airship crashed one day later on the return flight. A Russian radio amateur picked up the distress signals sent from a small transmitter aboard the Italia and an international rescue mission ensued. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Umberto_Nobile

Numerous special event stations want to commemorate the event between 20 March and 20 October 20, e.g. II0IDO, II1IGJ, II1AIT, R1LK, OL90ITALIA, IB2RT, II1ITR, RJ1O...

Next Week's Contests

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 21 March
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 21 March
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 21 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 22 March
NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 22 March
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 22 March
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 23 March
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 March
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 March
CQ WW WPX SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 24 March to 23:59 UTC 25 March
FOC QSO Party, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 24 March

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter

